

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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TREASURY - MR. PARSKY

TREASURY - MR WILLIAMS

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NEA/P -MR. SHERMAN

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P 100254Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 198066

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SA,

SUBJECT: VOA REMARKS ON SAUDI PURCHASE OF TREASURY ISSUES

REF; JIDDA 5196

1. VOA STORY WAS BASED ON STORY CARRIED BY NEW YORK TIMES SEPTEMBER 7 REPORTED BY JUAN DEONIS FROM JIDDA. DEONIS HAS IN THE PAST CARRIED STORIES PUT OUT BY YAMANI ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT KNOW WHO HIS SOURCE WAS ON THIS OCCASION.
2. VOA SEEKING GUIDANCE ON NEW YORK TIMES STORY WAS INFORMED BY STATE AND TREASURY DEPARTMENTS THAT WE WERE ENCOURAGED BY PRESS REPORTS ABOUT SAUDI INTENTION PURCHASE TREASURY ISSUES BUT THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO CONFIRM ACCURACY OF REPORTS.
3. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE WE PLAN TO USE IN EVENT SUBJECT IS RAISED WITH DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.

QUESTION; HAS SAUDI ARABIA PURCHASED SPECIAL TREASURY

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ISSUES, OR HAS IT PROMISED TO DO SO?

ANSWER: AS YOU KNOW, WHEN TREASURY SECRETARY SIMON VISITED SAUDI ARABIA IN JULY, HE DISCUSSED A PROPOSAL TO SELL SPECIAL TREASURY ISSUES TO THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT.

SAUDI ARABIA INDICATED AN INTEREST AND WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THEIR OFFICIALS. TO DATE, SAUDI ARABIA HAS NOT MADE ANY PURCHASES.

AS TO SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT INTENTIONS, YOU SHOULD ADDRESS QUERIES TO THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT.

QUESTION: BUT YOU HAVE NOT ANSWERED THE QUESTION WHETHER SAUDI ARABIA HAS TOLD US THEY WOULD PURCHASE THESE ISSUES?

ANSWER: I HAVE SAID ALL I CAN SAY ON THIS SUBJECT AT THE PRESENT TIME. KISSINGER

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